

Weekly Column for November 16, 2006

With one week to go until Thanksgiving, that can only mean one thing- we are gearing up to trot.

Today we held the official kickoff of the 59th Running of the Turkey Trot with a press conference, as well as the 2nd Annual Mascot Race to determine the official starter of the 10K race next week.

And while the distance was short, the excitement was even less, as the Troy Turkey pulled off the win, defeating the Hudson Valley Viking and Sporty the Chicken. Now I am not exactly sure who Sporty the Chicken is, but I do know it was a last minute replacement for Hannaford Hank, the defending champion.

Obviously this was just a publicity stunt to try and grab some media attention for the Turkey Trot. We are expecting more than 4,000 people to once again enter the one of the four races, the first of which begins at 8 a.m. on Thanksgiving morning. The race schedule for Thanksgiving is as follows:

- Turkey Walk at 8 a.m.
- The Grade School One-Mile at 8:30a.m.
- The Open 5K at 9:15a.m.
- The Open 10K at 10:15a.m.

As I said this morning, this is an event that takes an extreme amount of planning, hard work and partnership. Our corporate partners in this event help us offset the costs, as well as promote the races. This year we are proud to have Hannaford, Pioneer Savings Bank, Fly92, Saratoga Water, WM J Fagan and Sons, and Bryce Real Estate working closely with us.

If you are still interested in racing, but have yet to sign up, there is still time to do so. The first way is directly on the front page of this website. The second is to call the Gobbler Line at (518) 235-8993, which also includes all relevant information about the race.

Outside of the rain that has been on and off for the past few hours, it has obviously been quite the mild November day. We can only hope that our good luck holds up for another week.

Thank you and have a great weekend!

Harry J Tutunjian
Mayor of Troy